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WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Wednesday, April 29, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building, the Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia will hold an oversight hearing on the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA).

The financial hardships, proposed service cuts and infrastructure challenges of the transit system have prompted the Subcommittee, which has jurisdiction over the District's affairs, to call a hearing on WMATA to examine these issues.

"The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority operates one of the largest transit systems in the country. Residents, commuters and visitors alike rely on Metro to navigate our nation's capital," said Chairman Stephen F. Lynch. "Therefore, a safe and efficient transit system that serves the people of the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia and Maryland is essential."

Established by an interstate compact to plan, build, finance, and manage a balanced regional transportation system throughout the District's metropolitan area, WMATA is responsible for operating Metrorail Service, Metrobus Service and MetroAccess, a paratransit service.

The hearing aims to generate discussion on short and long term strategies that will enable WMATA to improve its current financial condition, overcome operational challenges, and ensure the safety of its patrons.

“With WMATA facing recent financial and operational challenges, the Subcommittee will examine the current state of WMATA as well as possible remedies to ensure its financial health while maintaining the reliability and safety on which its customers have come to depend,” Chairman Lynch continued.

Witnesses’ testimonies, the Chairman’s opening statement and a 10 a.m. live broadcast of the hearing can be found on the Subcommittee’s website, federalworkforce.oversight.house.gov

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To view a webcast of the hearing, please click on the link below:

[Click Here](#)

The Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service, and the District of Columbia’s jurisdiction includes federal employee issues, non-appropriation municipal affairs of the District of Columbia, and the Postal Service, including post office namings, holidays, and commemoratives.